

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – ACTION SUMMARY
Thursday, June 26, 2008 – 6:00 p.m.

Administration Building – Board Chambers
2101 Hurley Way, Sacramento, CA 95825

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Trujillo. Board Members present: Clark, Goold, Granados, Jones, Kelly, Lawson, Trujillo, Valley. Director Engellenner, absent. Staff: Fire Chief Mette, Board Clerk Tilson, Associate General Counsel Chavez.

PLEDGE TO FLAG

METRO CABLE 14 ANNOUNCEMENT

The open session Meeting is videotaped for cablecast on Metro Cable 14. Replay on Saturday, June 28 at 1:00 PM and Monday, June 30 at 6:00 PM on Channel 14; Webcast at www.sacmetro cable.tv. A VHS copy is also available for checkout from any library branch.

**PUBLIC OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF PUBLIC INTEREST WITHIN
DISTRICT JURISDICTION INCLUDING ITEMS ON OR NOT ON THE AGENDA**

Medical Aid Incident

Bernard Marks, 9025 Talisman Drive, Sacramento, addressed the Board regarding an incident on April 15, 2008. He called 9-1-1 for medical aid for his wife and described the occurrence in detail and the ensuing events. Later he encountered difficulty in obtaining the actual medical report through American Medical Response (AMR) but was assisted by Battalion Chief Arend. As a result of his personal experience in which his wife passed away, he suggested the Board place some performance criteria on AMR since their contract is due for renewal in 2009 and that all employees undergo sensitivity training to avoid the mistakes made in his case.

As requested, he provided the Board with copies of his four-page letter for the record.

Fire Chief Mette stated the District would look into the incident and notify Mr. Marks whenever AMR is available to attend a Board meeting, possibly on July 10.

Fire Incident

Katherine Leonard, President of the Orangevale Chamber of Commerce, residing at 7240 Kenneth Avenue in Orangevale, addressed the Board relative to a fire on Friday, June 13, 2008, at 7244/7246 Kenneth Avenue, next to her building/duplex. She related the circumstances and praised the efforts of the firefighting crews in containing the fire without harm to her home and thanked each and every one of them. Also thanked the people behind the scene who were very kind and professional, along with Jill Conner who has gone out of her way to educate and help the residents of Orangevale.

For the record, a copy of her letter of thanks to Fire Chief Mette and Operations Deputy Chief Geoff Miller was provided.

[Closed Session taken out of Order]

CONSENT AGENDA:**1. Board Meeting Action Summary—June 12, 2008**

For clarification purposes, Director Jones recommended moving the remarks by Captain Monahan under Public Comment, after the Board Member comments.

- **Board Action:**

Granados/ Lawson—approve the Consent Agenda. ROLL CALL: Clark, Granados, Goold, Jones, Lawson, Trujillo, Valley, AYE. Director Kelly, abstained. Director Engellenner, absent. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM(S):**1. Purchase of Helicopter Insurance Coverage—(Eastman)**

- The current helicopter insurance policy expires July 31, 2008. The insurance proposal offered through ACE/Westchester (ACE) will renew the policy for a one-year term with an increased insured value of \$1.2 million.
- ABD solicited quotes from seven companies and received only one proposal from ACE/Westchester.
- Director Goold suggested in the future staff research a competitive insurance bidding process since only one bid was received. Possibly Cal-Chiefs can look at policies that can be purchased by public agencies running helicopter services for firefighting.

- Answers to various questions to be brought back on Hull War Risk, Liability War Risk, and the age of the helicopter as a possible contributing factor to the lack of insurance proposals.
- Staff recommended the Board award the bid for the 2008/2009 helicopter insurance coverage to ACE/Westchester at the quoted rate of \$81,200.
- **Board Action:**
Granados/Goold—approve staff recommendation. ROLL CALL: Clark, Goold, Granados, Jones, Kelly, Lawson, Trujillo, Valley, AYE. Director Engellenner, absent. Motion passed.

2. Fiscal Year 2008/2009 Preliminary Budget—(Sponable)

- A PowerPoint presentation was given in addition to the four-page staff report accompanied by the proposed 2008/2009 Preliminary Budget.
- The proposed preliminary budget package assumes that fiscally conservative measures implemented in the last 18 months shall continue throughout Fiscal Year 2009. Major assumptions for this budget are itemized below:
 - ✓ Assumes 37 retirees that are backfilled with constant staffing
 - ✓ Budget divided into General Fund and Capital Facilities Fund
 - ✓ Capital Facilities now expended out of Capital Facilities Fund (212D)
 - ✓ 1.5% Property Tax growth estimate
 - ✓ 5% Medic revenue growth estimate
 - ✓ GASB 45 (OPEB, retiree healthcare) contribution, approximately \$4 million
 - ✓ Significant reduction to VRP (Vehicle Replacement Program)
 - ✓ Pension Funding Bond payoff reduced from \$2.4 million to \$1.7 million (still on track!)
 - ✓ Services and Supplies (2000 account) @ 9.3% of operating revenue
 - ✓ Budget requests categorized 1 to 5, 4's and 5's not funded (non-essential)
 - ✓ Florin merger SCERS agreement. \$1 million contribution to UAAL (pension unfunded liability)
 - ✓ CalPers miscellaneous & Safety pensions prefunded
 - ✓ North Highlands SCERS pensions prefunded
 - ✓ CalPers safety rate increased 1.05% which is an approximate 3.5% increase to that expense
 - ✓ CalPers misc. rate decreased 0.18% which is an approximate 1.0% decrease to that expense
 - ✓ North Highlands SCERS safety rate decreased 0.80 which is a 2.0% decrease to that expense
 - ✓ Capital Facilities Funds (reserves) utilized to complete Station 29
 - ✓ Capital Facilities Funds utilized to purchase Copter 1 engine
 - ✓ CalPers health insurance increases of approximately 4.7% for Calendar year 2009
 - ✓ Existing contractual obligations will require that additional cost savings measures be implemented

- ✓ Delayed financing of FY08 Training site and Station 61 property is proposed to occur in FY09
- ✓ Sacramento County reports reassessments of \$1.9 million dollars for Metro Fire, the impact to revenues is estimated to be \$4.9 million and is a major factor in our low growth rate for FY09.
- ✓ Significant deficit in current proposal, additional mitigation measures to be addressed in the Final Budget
- Combined total expenditures for the 2008-2009 Preliminary Budgets for the General Fund and Capital Facilities Fund are \$165,497,990 while estimated total operating revenues are forecast at \$158,642,695. The difference between the estimated revenues and the estimated expenditures is \$6,855,295 which this budget supports by the use of \$1,889,355 from transfers from 212A fund balance undesignated reserves, and \$4,965,940 from prior Capital Facility Fund reserves.

A. Resolution No. 50-08 – 2008-2009 Preliminary Budget for General Operating Fund 212-A

Resolution No. 50-08 adopting the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Preliminary Budget for the General Operating Fund 212-A in the amount of \$159,032,050.

- **Board Action:**
Granados/Lawson—adopt the Resolution. ROLL CALL: Clark, Goold, Granados, Jones, Kelly, Lawson, Trujillo, Valley, AYE. Director Engellenner, absent. Motion passed.

B. Resolution No. 51-08 – 2008-2009 Preliminary Budget for the Capital Facilities Fund 212-D

Resolution No. 51-08 adopting the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Preliminary Budget for the Capital Facilities Fund 212-D in the amount of \$6,465,940.

- **Board Action:**
Granados/Lawson—adopt the Resolution. ROLL CALL: Clark, Goold, Granados, Jones, Kelly, Lawson, Trujillo, Valley, AYE. Director Engellenner, absent. Motion passed.

3. Resolution No. 52-08—Industrial Disability Retirement for Fire Captain Ronald Pierce—(Miller)

- Work-related injury precluding performance of duties in the position of Fire Captain.
- Application filed with the Public Employees' Retirement System.
- Recommend approval; retirement effective July 1, 2008.
- **Board Action:**
Goold/Jones—adopt the Resolution. ROLL CALL: Clark, Goold, Granados, Jones, Kelly, Lawson, Trujillo, Valley, AYE. Director Engellenner, absent. Motion passed.

[Director Lawson Departed at 7:48 p.m.]

PRESENTATION ITEMS(S):

1. Notice of Expenditure of District Funds – Accident and Health Insurance Coverage for District Volunteers—(Eastman)

The District took action to purchase the Accident and Health Insurance policy for the District Volunteers through National Union Fire Insurance effective July 1, 2006 through July 1, 2009. This is the third annual installment in the amount of \$2,662.

The fiscal impact to the District for the 2008/2009 year is \$2,662. The premium quoted is within the amount allocated in the preliminary budget for this item.

- **Board Action:**
For information only.

2. Notice of Expenditure of District Funds – Annual Workers' Compensation Claims Administration—(Eastman)

The District renewed its contract with Gregory B. Bragg & Associates, Inc. for the period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2009 for administration of the District's Workers' Compensation claims. This is the third annual installment in the amount of \$184,000.

The fiscal impact to the District for the 2008/2009 year is \$184,000, which is within the amount allocated in the preliminary budget for this item.

- **Board Action:**
For information only.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT—(Trujillo) None**FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT—(Mette)**

- Fire Incident Report – 14 working structures and 60 grass fires since the last Board meeting.
- Medical aid calls – Thank you letters received from Dan Harris and Robert Williams.
- Distributed an updated map of the California wildfires.

Sacramento Metro Fire currently has 50 personnel, 7 Type 3 grass units, and 2 engine companies deployed across the State. 30 personnel are working on strike teams, with 11 others assigned to incident management teams.

Total fires in the State: as of last night 1,032, an estimate of 132,000+ acres, contained fires – 232. Resources committed: personnel – 11,989, fire engines – 941, hand crews – 271, water tenders – 360, helicopters – 42, air tankers – 6

- June 18 – Promotional Ceremony for 13 personnel at Rancho Cordova City Hall.
- Captain Steve Eggiman was released from the hospital and returned to his home last Thursday and is in good spirits.
- Jackson Highway incident – five structures were lost in the fire. 29 residential structures and 30 outbuildings were saved. Commended the fire personnel for a great job.
- Received a thank you from the Citrus Heights Police Department for our assistance in photographing their two-year anniversary event. Truck 23 was involved in the event.
- Working with the City of Rancho Cordova in preparing their Emergency Operations Plan for presentation to the City Council on July 7.
- June 25, 2008 – press conference at Station 32 regarding the Sacramento Area Illegal Fireworks Taskforce and a zero-tolerance policy. Speakers included Chief Mette and State Fire Marshal Kate Dargan.
- July 1, 2008 – The City of Rancho Cordova will be celebrating its 5th anniversary. Sacramento Metro Fire will be involved with apparatus and personnel.

- The Sacramento City Council decided on a brown-out plan for the City fire stations. Browning out one engine company per day starting the second week of July at a multi-company station. Plan will be reviewed in a couple months to see if there is a need to go to a second company.
- Included his letter for information regarding correspondence (dated June 19, 2008) received by the Board members.
- July 4th – conducting the River Safe Program at the Sunrise Bridge.
- July 6 through July 20 – on vacation. Deputy Chief Geoff Miller will be in charge.
- **SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION REPORT –**
Deputy Chief Jim Eastman updated the Board on the various divisions.

Community Services –

- Continues to work with Fire Camp and Camp Smokey.
- Two school presentation on Fireworks Safety and Water Safety.
- Classes on senior safety and Fire Extinguishers.
- June 25 – completed another smoke alarm event at the Big Oak Mobile Home Park in Citrus Heights. Visited 48 homes and installed 23 batteries and 15 smoke alarms; 19 working systems.
- Preparations under way for two future Smoke Alarm events in the Arden Arcade area in July. Invited interested Board members to participate.
- Received additional funding of about \$5,000 in donations for new life jackets through the Kids' Plate Grant and a major business in the community.

Development Projects –

- Station 29 is moving forward.
- Station 68 located on Niobe Circle – began retrofitting the interior for occupancy.

Facilities Division –

- Station 116 – Installed the updated sign honoring Wilma Dyer.
- Station 106 – passed the final inspection for the kitchen remodel.
- Station 68 – work to begin next Monday.

Fire Prevention –

- New Cordova Hill project to be located off Grant Line Road – 2,400 acre mixed use residential/commercial with a private university.
- Fireworks – 241 booths, sales start June 28. Receiving numerous calls from media and public on banning fireworks.
- Weed abatement continuing including Metro fire stations.

- Received appreciation for our assistance in a neighborhood cleanup conducted by the County.
- Investigators are relocating from McClellan to the North Central Sheriffs substation at Marconi and Fulton.

Fleet –

- Fleet staff is doing a great job putting strike team vehicles back into service on returning from the fires. Most have been redeployed.
- The first new Type I Engine will go into service next week.

Logistics –

- Getting ready for Operation River Safe on July 4th. Logistics will coordinate and deliver all life jackets to the two input points of the American River to assist CERT in handing out the life jackets to boaters.
- Working on the Wildland Coat sleeve project. B12 and B7 still left.
- Setting up the schedule to get all structure gear documented with the advanced inspection and cleaning as required by NFPA.

Information Technology –

- VHF Portable Radios are ready for distribution.
- District is compliant with the July 1st Cell Phone law.
- Working on Station 68's house.

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT—(Chavez) None

COMMITTEE AND DELEGATE REPORTS:**Executive Committee—(Trujillo)**

- Next Meeting: TBD

Communications Center Delegate—(Valley)

- Updates on meetings.
- Next Meeting: July 29, 2008 – 10:30 PM

California Fire & Rescue Training Authority—(Kelly)

- Report on last meeting.
- Next Meeting: July 16, 2008 – 9:00 AM
Location: Metro Fire Training Conference Room
4427 Dudley Blvd., McClellan

Finance Committee—(Jones)

- Next meeting: July 10, 2008 – 5:00 PM

Policy Committee—(Trujillo)

- Met today and referred the cost recovery policy to the next full Board meeting.
- Next meeting: July 24, 2008 – 5:00 PM

BOARD MEMBER QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:**Granados:**

- Recognized Captain Ron Pierce and wished him the best in his retirement.
- Fireworks – encouraged everyone to refrain from using fireworks this year because of the health hazard it creates and fire danger.

Jones:

- Reminded everyone that August 1 through 9 will be the Annual Summer Camp for young burn survivors in the Tahoe Lake area. It is sponsored by the Burn Institute who can be contacted at (916) 739-8525. Encouraged public support and donations.
- Viewed District Water Safety public service announcements on Channel 19. It was very well done and encouraged the use of life jackets for everyone.
- For the upcoming 4th of July, as a founding member of the Taskforce for the Responsible Fireworks use, urged everyone to turn in any illegal fireworks that may be found and to act responsibly with the safe and sane fireworks.
- Best wishes to all of the Metro firefighters committed to fighting the fires and a safe return.

Kelly:

- Commented on the budget approval this evening. It is apparent that many State agencies are having a rough time with their budgets. Attended the City Council meeting when they were demanding large cuts from their fire department. In order to do that, services had to be reduced. This will impact our District. Believes they are taking advantage of the relationship they have with Metro Fire and the mutual aid agreement in place with the local agencies and hopes this doesn't become a problem. Nice to see a budget that does not reduce the services we provide day in and day out and to see people can pull together and make the changes necessary so that we are able to continue to provide the services so important to the residents of our District.

Valley:

- Echoed the same sentiments, but the real point is we are able to do a lot.
- If you read the newspaper, the Governor has advocated not buying fireworks. Recommended people who don't buy fireworks to at least donate the money to the charitable groups that need it.

Goold:

- Words can't express how proud he is of the men and women that work for this District in making the Board's job easier relative to the budget. The sacrifice of 31,000 hours is unbelievable. Encouraged more savings when times get better.
- Echoed the comments relative to water safety. It sounds like we may have lost a young person today in the river who was not wearing a life vest. Urged everyone to take advantage of using the life jackets made available.
- Concerned about not having a Master Mechanic. Cuts are necessary but operating equipment is needed. If there is a way to look at retired annuitants or bringing back the Mechanic, this should be a significant priority for the department.
- Encouraged safe and sane fireworks used responsibly to support the charities. Echoed Director Valley's comments. If we don't buy, donate.

Trujillo:

- Director Lawson wanted to thank Station 31, A Shift, in assisting his wife during her illness today. They acted in a most professional manner in a short response time.
- Thanked staff for their reports.
- The men and women firefighters in the District are the best. Thanked them for their work.
- A word of caution for those that smoke. Please remember to use your ashtrays when driving and have a safe 4th of July.
- Echoed the comments of Directors Valley and Goold. Buy the fireworks but if you don't, at least donate and support the charities.

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION 6:33 PM

[Taken out of order after Public Comment]

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION 7:00 PM**CLOSED SESSION GOVERNMENT CODES:**

Report by Associate General Counsel Chavez:

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL-EXISTING LITIGATION

Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54956.9(a) – Two (2) Cases

A. Dan Baker vs Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
Claim #2007063002

The Board heard the medical evidence and unanimously voted to authorize the workers' compensation counsel to settle the claim.

B. Ronald Pierce vs Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District
Claim #2007067589

The Board unanimously approved the industrial disability retirement and will consider the Resolution under Action Item No. 3.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Ray Trujillo, President

Gregory A. Granados, Secretary

Charlotte Tilson, Clerk of the Board